

REMARKS

The enclosed is responsive to Examiner's Final Office Action mailed on December 12, 2006. At the time Examiner mailed the Final Office Action claims 1-22 were pending. By way of the present response Applicants have: 1) amended claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 11, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20 and 21; 2) added no new claims; and 3) canceled no claims. As such, claims 1-22 are now pending. Support for the claim amendments can be found the originally-filed application at pages 18-20.

Applicant respectfully request reconsideration of the present application and the allowance of all claims now presented.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC §102 and § 103

Claims 1-13, 18-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ramon J. San Andres et al, U.S. Publication No. 2002/0124082 (hereinafter "San Andres").

Applicant respectfully submits that San Andres does not disclose or suggest features recited in the present set of claims. For example, San Andres does not teach or suggest a user interface to enable a user to change a default parameter value associated with a particular name in a property sheet to a custom parameter value, nor does San Andres disclose or suggest a system in which the property sheet data structure preserves the value of the default parameter when the name is assigned the custom parameter value.

The relevant portion of San Andreas cited in the previous office action reads as follows:

The node editors 442 advantageously provide a mechanism for allowing the properties of Directory Service nodes to be customized on a per-service basis, and allow service-specific properties to be defined for nodes. When, for example, a new node is remotely created (or edited) by a sysop, the corresponding node editor 442 is invoked to provide a property sheet of the properties that can be set by sysops. (Certain properties, such as the DEID, APPID, and service group ID are set automatically, and cannot be modified by regular sysops). The sysop can then specify or modify these properties via a user interface of the Sysop Tools client application 444. The specific properties which may be modified by the user depend upon the sysop level (e.g., regular sysop, sysop manager, supersysop, etc.) of the user at the node. (emphasis added). San Andreas at [0165].

Thus, San Andreas describes that a “sysop” or user may modify properties of a property sheet related to a particular “node.” However, San Andreas does not disclose or suggest that a default value for that property is preserved when a new custom value is associated with a name within the property sheet. In fact, San Andreas does not mention that concept of using a default value within a property sheet; it simply describes that the values of the property sheet are modifiable by a sysop and/or user. As described in the present application as filed, one of the benefit of preserving a default value is that “if an end user modifies a particular value within a particular configuration object, the default value can always be recovered (e.g., for trouble-shooting purposes).” Present Application [0044].

Consequently, because San Andreas does not disclose or suggest features recited in Claims 1-13 and 18-22, Applicant respectfully submits that these claims are in condition for allowance.

Claim 14 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over San Andres in view of Waqar Sadiq, U.S. Publication No. 2004/0148183

(hereinafter "Sadiq"). Sadiq also does not teach or suggest that a default value for that property is preserved when a new custom value is associated with a name within the property sheet. Because Claim 14 depends from Claim 11 and includes additional features Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 14 is in condition for allowance for all of the reasons set forth above.

Claims 15-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over San Andres in view of Steve K. Kim, U.S. Publication No. 2002/0069272 (hereinafter "Kim"). Independent Claim 15 includes following feature:

wherein in response to the user specifying a custom parameter value in place of a default parameter value for a particular name, associating the name with the custom parameter value but preserving the value of the default parameter . . .

Kim does not teach or suggest a method for updating configuration settings for a plurality of server nodes in which a property sheet data structure preserves the value of the default parameter when a parameter name is assigned a custom parameter value. Consequently, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 15-17 are in condition for allowance.


CONCLUSION

In summary, because San Andreas, Sadiq, and Kim do not teach or suggest all of the features recited in the present set of claims, Applicant respectfully submits that these claims are in condition for allowance.

If there are any additional charges, please charge them to our Deposit Account Number 02-2666. If a telephone conference would facilitate the prosecution of this application, Examiner is invited to contact Thomas C. Webster at (408) 720-8300.

Respectfully Submitted,
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

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